

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This action is in response to the communication filed on 2/16/10.
2. Claims 29, 30 and 32-35 were previously cancelled.
3. Claims 1-28 and 31 are pending in this action.
4. Claims 1-28 and 31 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-28 and 31 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the reason for allowance is clear from the prosecution history. Regarding the process/method claim 31, the detection section (fig. 1, element 108) and the setting section (fig. 1, element 110) are the particular apparatuses that perform the steps recited therein, i.e., in claim 31. Thus, claim 31 is a statutory process/method claim under § 101.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Meless N. Zewdu whose telephone number is (571) 272-7873. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am to 5:00 pm..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chang Kent can be reached on (571) 272-7667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any inquiry of a general nature relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

/Meless N Zewdu/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617
4/3/2010